THE WHOLE

# TRYAL,

## Examination & Condemnation of all the

# PYRATES,

That was Try'd and Condemn'd by the High Court of *Admirality*, at the Seſſion-Houſe in the Old *Bailey*; on *Wedneſday* and *Thurſday*, the 26. and 27. of this inſtant *May*, 1725. For ſeveral *Inhumane Murders* and *Notorious Pyracies*, by them committed on the *High Seas*.

AT the Seſſions of Admirality, held at Juſtice Hall in the Old Bailey, on *Wedneſday* and *Thurſday*, being the 26*th* and 27*th* of this Inſtant *May* 1725, for the Tryal of Offences committed on the High Seas, within the Juriſdiction of the Admirality of *England*: There were preſent on the Bench, Sir *Henry Pentice*, Judge of the Admirality, Mr. *Juſtice Tracy*, Mr. *Juſtice Rynolds*, *&c.* Before whom where firſt try'd, *Bridſtock Weaver*, and *William Ingram*. For ſeveral Pyracies and Fellonies committed by them in the Weſt *Indias*, by taking a great Number of Ships, and receiving ſhare of their Goods.

The Evidence againſt theſe two Priſoners, were *Robert Joyce*, *Charles Maning*, and *Richard Wheeler*. *Robert Joyce* depoſed, that on the 26*th* of *Auguſt* laſt, as he was a ſailing to *Barbadoes* in the *Little York*, *James Phillips* Maſter, we were attack'd and took off the ſaid Iſland, by a Pyrate Ship, of 24 Guns, and 86 Men, one Captain *Anſtice* Commander. On Board which Pyrate Ship, were the two Priſoners at the Bar, who were the only Perſons that would hall me and Four more of our Company on Board the Pyrate Ship, and Beat us ſadly becauſe we refuſed, and *William Ingram* ſaid, G---d D---m you for a cowardly Rogue, you ſhall be hang'd for your Honeſty, as well as we for our Roguery. And after taking every Thing that pleaſed them out of our Ship, they threw over Board the reſt; only for Spite, they kept the Ship three Days, and then ſent our Captain and his Plunder'd Ship away with the reſt of his Men, who refuſed to go with us.

*Charles Maning* depoſed, That on the 24 of *September* laſt, as they were a ſailing near the Banks of new found Land, *Phœnix*, *John Richard's* Maſter, they ſpy'd a Sail about 9 a Clock in the Morning, ſhe bore down upon us, with all the Sail ſhe could Crow'd, when ſhe came nearer, we perceiv'd *Jolly Roger* (the name of their Black Flag) at which our Captain ask'd us if we would Fight, we told him we would, the Pyrate ſeeing us make Preparations to fight him, fir'd a Broad-ſide, at which kill'd ſome of our Men, and wounded others, at which our Boatſwain cry'd quarter, and they came on Board us, uſeing us very Cruely, the two Priſoners at the Bar was among the Pyrates; They ſquized our Captain's Joints in a vice to make him Confeſs where he had conceal'd ſome Money that was on Board, that ſome of our Men had told them of: They forc'd Six of our Men, among whom was my ſelf and *Richard Wheeler*, who depoſed to

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the ſame Effect, only added, that *Bridſtock Weaver* knock'd him down for ſaying his Captain was an honeſt Man. They Burnt our Ship, and put the Captain and the reſt of his Men on Board a Briſtol Sloop, without any Proviſion or Water, the Priſoners ſaid they were forc'd Men, but that being proved to the contrary, they were both found Guilty.

At the ſame Time were try'd ſeveral of the Pyrates that acted on Board the *Revenge*, formerly call'd the *George Galley*, lately taken on the North of *Scotland*, and brought hither by the *Grayhound Man of War*; they were try'd for Murder and Pyracie, five of the Crew forc'd Men, *viz. Thomas Danker*, *Robert Jacobs*, *Jeremiah Anderſon*, *Charles Forreſter* and *William Clove*, made themſelves Evidences for the King.

*John Gow* alias *Smith*, a Highlander, Captain of the ſaid Pyrate Ship, being Arraign'd, refus'd to Plead, whereupon the Court, after often calling upon him to do it, patiently waiting and telling him, the dangerous Conſequence of ſuch a Refuſal, order'd him to be pres'd to Death in Caſe he continued obſtinate. His Thumbs were ty'd and ſeverly pulled, Executioner aſſiſted by another, at the Bar of the Court as uſual in ſuch Caſes; which he bore with much patience, and a ſtrong Reſolution; however, the Court gave him until the next Morning to conſider of it, and then if he refuſed to plead, then he ſhould be preſt to Death, but the next Morning he conſented, and pleaded not Guilty, then the Evidence were called and depoſed as follows.

We were all Ship't on Board the *George Galley* at *London*, Captain *Mannering* Comander; on the 23d of *September* laſt, Bound to *Philadelphia* in the Weſt *Indias*, in our Paſſage thither, the Priſoner at the Bar, who was then Mate of the Ship, had ſome Words with the Captain, which was ſoon over, and we thought all had been well; but two Days after, we ſaw *John Gow*, the Priſoner at the Bar, a Gabling with ſome of the Men, which we did not much Mind, not thinking it was about any Harm, but at the changing of the Night-watch, I was ſurpris'd with a General cry, God bleſs Captain *Gow*, at which I then being upon Deck, run upon Deck, & ſaw the Priſoner at the Bar, *Michael Moor*, *James Williams*, & *Daniel Mackall* a halling the Captain to the fore Caſtle; and I likeways ſaw *Daniel Mackall* ſtrike the Captain with a Cutleſs a-croſs the Throat, and the Blood flow'd plentifully from the Wound. I then ſaw *John Gowe* load two Piſtols with a Brace of Bullets in each Piſtol, and diſcharge them at the Captain, who was then a beging they would let him ſay his Prayers, but they Regardleſs of his Intreaties, inhumanly ſhot him while on his Knees. I ſaw the reſt of the Priſoners kill the Super-cargoe, firſt Mate and Surgeon, after a very barberous Manner, and then ſeiz'd the Ship. They told us they would throw us over Board if we would not obey them, they then turn Pyrates, and took ſeveral Veſſals, The Officers and Sailors, of which are now in Call to prove the Truth. The Priſoners ſaid but little in their Defence, and upon due Conſideration, the Jury brought in, *John Gow*, *Michael Moor*, *James Williams* *Daniel Mackall*, *Peter Roltſon*, *John Paterſon*, *William Ingram*, *Bridſtock Weaver*, *William Melvin*, *Robert Winter*, *James Belby*, and *Alexander Rob*, guilty of Death, but *William Harvey*, *Robert Teague*, and *Robert Reid* were acquitted.

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*London* Printed, and *Edinburgh* Re-printed by *Robert Brown*. 1725.